

as the Director of Research and Development and Chief Scientist of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In that latter capacity he advised the Commanding General of the Corps on matters of science and technology and developed research and development policy for the Corps.

The ERDC research that he led has made an enormous difference in the global war on terrorism, GWOT. He led ERDC to be the 2002 Army Research and Development Organization of the Year in recognition of successful modeling of the physics of blast/structure interaction and development of structural-hardening technology for retrofitting buildings to withstand terrorist attacks. The Pentagon wedge that was hit on September 11 had just been structurally hardened using this technology, and ERDC's technology was credited with saving hundreds of lives on that tragic day. As a result of his support of GWOT, the Secretary of the Army awarded him the Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service, and the U.S. Army Engineer Regiment awarded him both its Bronze and Silver deFleury medals.

Under his leadership, ERDC won the Army Research and Development Organization of the Year five times: 2002, 2005, 2007, 2008, and 2009. This is an unprecedented performance accomplishment in the history of the Army's laboratory of the year competition.

Dr. Houston led countless water resources research efforts such as that for the Los Angeles County flood-control project that produced savings of over \$200 million. In 2004, the ERDC won the prestigious White House Closing-the-Circle Award for research on environmental stewardship. Under his leadership, the ERDC developed integrated biological, chemical, and ecological control technologies to combat nonindigenous aquatic plants, resulting in annual savings of \$50 million.

Dr. Houston has been a champion for outreach programs to foster a diverse workforce and supported educational outreach activities in civil engineering, environmental quality, and computer science. He provided research experience for college students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Institutions, HBCU/MI. During his tenure ERDC annually led the Army in meeting its HBCU/MI contracting goal.

He has published over 130 technical reports and papers, and he has received numerous honors and awards including Phi Beta Kappa; Phi Kappa Phi; SES Distinguished Presidential Rank Award; two SES Meritorious Presidential Rank Awards; Army R&D Achievement Award; Army Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service; Army Commendation Medal; two Army Meritorious Civilian Service Awards; Silver Order of de Fleury Medal; Bronze Order of de Fleury Medal; Eminent Speaker for 1993 from the Institution of Engineers, Australia; 1997 National Beach Advocacy Award; and the 2003

Morrough P. O'Brien Award from the American Shore and Beach Preservation Association.

Dr. Houston's career with the Corps of Engineers has been marked with unprecedented accomplishments and is a superb legacy. His exceptional leadership qualities and technical eminence are in the best tradition of the Corps. He is a consummate professional whose performance in over 38 years of service has personified those traits of competency and integrity that our Nation has come to expect of its senior civilian leaders. We wish him and his family all the best.●

#### RECOGNIZING GOODRICH AEROSTRUCTURES

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Goodrich Aerostructures Original Equipment Manufacturer and the Alabama Service Center in Foley, AL, on their 25th anniversary. Goodrich Aerostructures became part of the Baldwin County community in 1984, originally as Rohr Industries. Twenty-two years later, Goodrich expanded significantly, and since 2005 Goodrich Aerostructures has been the second largest employer in Foley with approximately 800 people manufacturing, assembling, repairing, and servicing aircraft engine components and structures for military and commercial airplanes.

Since its inception, Goodrich Aerostructures has received numerous awards and recognition for continually providing excellent service and outstanding products. For the past 8 consecutive years, employees at Goodrich in Foley have been recognized by the Federal Aviation Administration with Aviation Maintenance Technician awards. In addition, Goodrich Aerostructures in Foley recently reached a significant milestone by delivering its 500th CF34-10 nacelle, and the company is on contract to supply the pylons and nacelle systems for the Air Force's C-5 Galaxy strategic airlifter as part of the Reliability Enhancement and Re-Engining Program to modernize the Air Force airlift fleet and improve support for our military personnel around the world.

The men and women of Goodrich have also been recognized as good corporate citizens and civic leaders in Baldwin County. The United Way of Baldwin County recognized Goodrich as the top contributing industry in the county earlier this year, and Goodrich workers actively support education, arts, and civic activities in the local community, including support for the Foley Public Library, the Center for Autism for Baldwin County, and the Baldwin County Council on Aging, and sending care packages to employees' friends and family members that are serving our country in Iraq and Afghanistan.

On behalf of my Senate colleagues and the State of Alabama, I thank the

men and women of Goodrich Aerostructures in Foley.●

#### RECOGNIZING RICKER HILL ORCHARDS

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, as we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving next week, we should be mindful of the thousands of Americans who make possible the celebration as we know it today. Farmers of all kinds grow and harvest the sweet potatoes, turkeys, and cranberries that we enjoy on our dinner tables every fourth Thursday in November. In recognition of one such business, I rise today to honor a small family farm that has been harvesting delicious fruits in western Maine for over two centuries.

Located in the scenic town of Turner in Maine's foothills, Ricker Hill Orchards primarily grows apples of all varieties, most notably the McIntosh, a tradition the Ricker family started in 1803. The small family-owned farm, now in its ninth generation, has expanded over the years to grow other fruits, including pears and peaches, as well as other items like North American ginseng. Of course with apples comes cider, and Ricker Hill presses its own cider on the premises. Similarly, the company sells numerous apple-related products at its county store, such as apple cider donuts—a fall treat in Maine—pies, turnovers, dumplings, and other sweets. For those without the good fortune of visiting Maine during the crisp fall months, Ricker Hill has an online store where customers can order sweet cortland and gala apples, refreshing cider, and other unique gifts.

Additionally, during the early fall months, Ricker Hill adds cranberries—one of only three commercially grown fruits that are native to America—to its repertoire. The orchard dry harvests its small bright berries, as opposed to employing wet harvesting, allowing Ricker Hill to sell fresh berries at market that last longer. To produce the fruit, Ricker Hill must irrigate the bogs starting in the spring, while maintaining and repairing existing fields, and building new ones, throughout the summer. Finally, the company harvests the cranberries in early fall, using a small lawnmower-like instrument to collect the fruit.

To entertain the whole family, Ricker Hill has taken great strides towards making a visit to their farm a day-long event. Complete with a corn maze, hay barn, obstacle course, and cider making tour, the company packs a plethora of activities into its Farm Fun Day Pass. Ricker Hill also offers tours to school groups of the farm's apple picking and packing operations. And something one would not expect at a farm, Ricker Hill even has a challenging disc golf course that winds through the farm's acres of bogs and woods.

Ricker Hill Orchards excels at providing visitors with a quintessential

Maine fall experience. And for over 200 years, the farm has been producing some of New England's freshest and most delectable fruits, a practice that has helped the company garner a matchless reputation. As Thanksgiving approaches, and families across the country sit down to plates of cranberry sauce and apple pie, I wish everyone at Ricker Hill Orchards many more years of successful harvests of the ingredients that make this holiday so special.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 9:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 748. An act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2777 Logan Avenue in San Diego, California, as the "Cesar E. Chavez Post Office".

S. 1211. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 60 School Street, Orchard Park, New York, as the "Jack F. Kemp Post Office Building".

S. 1314. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 630 Northeast Killingsworth Avenue in Portland, Oregon, as the "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Post Office".

S. 1825. An act to extend the authority for relocation expenses tests programs for Federal employees, and for other purposes.

H.R. 955. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10355 Northeast Valley Road on Rollingbay, Washington, as the "John 'Bud' Hawk Post Office".

H.R. 1516. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 37926 Church Street in Dade City, Florida, as the "Sergeant Marcus Mathes Post Office".

H.R. 1713. An act to name the South Central Agricultural Research Laboratory of the Department of Agriculture in Lane, Oklahoma, and the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 310 North Perry Street in Bennington, Oklahoma, in honor of former Congressman Wesley "Wes" Watkins.

H.R. 2004. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4282 Beach Street in Akron, Michigan, as the "Akron Veterans Memorial Post Office".

H.R. 2215. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 140 Merriman Road in Garden City, Michi-

gan, as the "John J. Shivnen Post Office Building".

H.R. 2760. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1615 North Wilcox Avenue in Los Angeles, California, as the "Johnny Grant Hollywood Post Office Building".

H.R. 2972. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 West Edward Street in Erath, Louisiana, as the "Conrad DeRouen, Jr. Post Office".

H.R. 3119. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 867 Stockton Street in San Francisco, California, as the "Lim Poon Lee Post Office".

H.R. 3386. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1165 2nd Avenue in Des Moines, Iowa, as the "Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans Memorial Post Office".

H.R. 3547. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 936 South 250 East in Provo, Utah, as the "Rex E. Lee Post Office Building".

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

At 10:35 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3305. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 224 South Boulder Avenue in Tulsa, Oklahoma, as the "H. Dale Cook Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

H.R. 3360. An act to amend title 46, United States Code, to establish requirements to ensure the security and safety of passengers and crew on cruise vessels, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3618. An act to provide for implementation of the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships, 2001, and for other purposes.

At 1:08 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 214. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3305. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 224 South Boulder Avenue in Tulsa, Oklahoma, as the "H. Dale Cook Federal Building and United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 3618. An act to provide for implementation of the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships, 2001, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3360. An act to amend title 46, United States Code, to establish requirements to ensure the security and safety of passengers and crew on cruise vessels, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3656. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral William D. Sullivan, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of Vice Admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3657. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Thomas R. Turner II, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of Lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3658. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement Designated Country" (DFARS Case 2009-D010) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2009; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3659. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to the United Kingdom; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3660. A communication from the Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Financial Crimes Enforcement Network; Amendment to the Bank Secrecy Act Regulations—Administrative Ruling System" (RIN1506-AB03) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3661. A communication from the Acting Director of Human Resources, Office of Administration and Resources Management, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, (3) three reports relative to vacancies in the Environmental Protection Agency, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2009; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3662. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pollution Prevention Equipment" ((RIN1625-AA90) (Docket No. USG-2004-18939)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 12, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3663. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Anchorages; New and Revised Anchorages in